

POLSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st May 2009 in the Village Hall Polstead.

Present: Mr Nick Brandt (in the Chair), Mr Michael Hackford (Vice-Chair),
Mr John Baxter Mrs Mandy Flather Mr Richard Kilshaw, Mrs Anne
Macwilson. & Mrs Trish Ravensdale

In attendance: Mr David Yorke-Edwards (County Councillor), Mrs Sandra Gray
(Clerk)

1) Apologies for Absence: Mrs Sue Wigglesworth (District Councillor), Amanda
Coleman, Suffolk Constabulary.

2) Election of Chairman

Mr. Nick Brandt was elected Chairman, proposed by Councillor Michael Hackford
seconded by Councillor Anne Macwilson, all in favour

3) Election of Vice-Chair

Mr. Michael Hackford was elected Vice-Chairman, proposed by Chairman Nick
Brandt, seconded by Councillor Trish Ravensdale, all in favour.

4) Election of Officers

- **S.A.L.C Representative**
Chairman Nick Brandt, proposed by Vice-Chair Michael Hackford, seconded
by Councillor John Baxter, all in favour.
- **Traffic Liaison Officer**
Councillor John Baxter, proposed by Chairman Nick Brandt, seconded by
Vice-Chair Michael Hackford, all in favour
- **Magazine Recorder**
Councillor Anne Macwilson, proposed by, Councillor Mandy Flather,
seconded by Vice-Chair Michael Hackford, all in favour.
- **Village Hall Representative**
Councillor Trish Ravensdale, proposed by, Councillor Richard Kilshaw,
seconded by, Councillor John Baxter, all in favour.
- **Layham Pit Representative**
Councillor Richard Kilshaw, proposed by Councillor Trish Ravensdale,
seconded by Councillor John Baxter, all in favour.

5) Declarations of Interests:

There were none.

6) Minutes of the meetings of 23rd April 2009.

The Minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

7) Reports:

A) County Councillor

David Yorke-Edwards reported that, due to the County Council elections on 4th June
2009, there was an embargo on certain procedures at the present time and therefore

his report consisted only of updating the Council on the Boundary Review. The local period of consultation is now complete and proposals from the Secretary of State will be known by the middle of July.

B) District Councillor

In the absence of Sue Wigglesworth, the Chairman said that, if there was anything she could do as a result of tonight's meeting, he would let her know.

C) Suffolk Constabulary

The Clerk reported that a report had been received on the evening of the Polstead Annual Parish Meeting which was too late to be read on the 30th April 2009. The Clerk read to the Council that in 2008 seven crimes had been reported, two detected and five undetected. Councillor Trish Ravensdale reported to the Council of the break-in of the Community Shop.

8) Reports & Questions from Councillors:

The Vice-Chair Michael Hackford thanked the Chairman for the provisions and drinks at the end of the Annual Parish Meeting stating that it made the occasion enjoyable for the parishioners who had attended as well as for the representatives of the village organisations who had given reports.

Councillor Richard Kilshaw reported that Andy Bell had informed him that the Polstice is organised for the 20th June 2009 and the license is all in place. The Council agreed for the Clerk to send Andy Bell the Terms and Conditions of use of the Playing Field for him to sign.

Councillor Richard Kilshaw reported that he had been unable to attend the recent Layham Pit Quarry Liaison meeting but informed the Council that as one of the five sites in Suffolk in the draft proposals to receive hazardous fill, the Council would be notified for its views if the proposal becomes a firm one.

Councillor Richard Kilshaw asked the Clerk to read his proposed letter to St Mary's PCC regarding the uncut grass area of the churchyard. The Council agreed for the Clerk to modify the letter in order for it to be sent from the Council.

Councillor John Baxter reported that he was still in talks with the Brett family regarding Carse Pond and it was agreed by the Council that, if a meeting could be made with a representative from Bretts to discuss Carse Pond, this would be of benefit.

Councillor Trish Ravensdale reported that a dog bin in Stackwood Road had been removed from its site. The Council agreed for the Clerk to speak to Babergh regarding the position of the dog bin as Councillor Anne Macwilson confirmed that, although the bin was used, its original position was on private land and not on a footpath.

9) Reports & Questions from Parishioners:

There were none

10) Planning Matters

Planning Application No: B/09/00260/LBC/BEL Thatchers House Bower House Tye Polstead CO6 5DD. Erection of extension and internal alterations to existing

outbuilding ;alterations to roof material (from thatch to clay pantile);insertion of 1 no.door and 1 no.window.

The Clerk reported that the above application had been granted planning permission

Planning Application No: B/09/00233/FHA/BEL Thatchers House Bower House Tye Polstead CO6 5DD. Erection of extension to existing outbuilding and alterations to roof to replace thatch with clay pantile.

The Clerk reported that the above application had been granted planning permission

Planning Application No: B/09/00360/FHA/AS Sunnyside, Straight Road Polstead Heath Polstead Colchester CO6 5BB. Erection of front porch (existing porch to be demolished).

The Clerk reported that the above application had been granted planning permission

B/08/01776/TCA Allotments Rockalls Road Polstead. Remove 1 no. Cherry tree.

The letter from Mrs Biggs regarding the wild cherry tree on the allotments was read by the Clerk. Mrs Biggs had agreed in her letter to pay for the removal of the tree. The Council agreed to this request but asked the Clerk to notify Mrs Biggs that the tree belongs to the Parish Council and, therefore, she must leave the logs on the property of the Council, i.e. the allotment.

The Chairman expressed his concern that any similar future requests by parishioners would have to be carefully considered so the Council does not act ultra vires.

11) Summer Hog Roast

After much discussion, it was agreed for the date of the Hog Roast to move to the 19th September due to personal commitments from three Councillors. It was agreed by the Council to state on the poster that the Hog will be served at 2.00pm.

It was agreed by the Council that Councillor Anne Macwilson would be the Treasurer for the event. The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer stressed to the Council that all payments be made by cheque due to accountability and ease of the audit at the end of the financial year.

Vice-Chair Michael Hackford agreed to re-arrange the hire of the toilets, generator and the hire of the marquee.

Vice- Chair Michael Hackford strongly emphasised the need for volunteers to help on the three days was and the Council unanimously agreed that assistance would be provided.

The Chairman Nick Brandt would organise the canned beer as well as the wine and Councillor John Baxter would arrange for provision of ice cream. Chairman Nick Brandt would speak to District councillor Sue Wigglesworth regarding Babergh assisting with a sports activity.

Councillors Mandy Flather and Anne Macwilson requested provision of music for all generations and it was agreed for Councillors to ask local residents for their assistance in this matter.

12) Hadleigh Fishing Permits

Having suggested the idea of providing Junior Hadleigh Fishing Permits for interested parties in Polstead, the Chairman reported that he had visited the Hadleigh Fishing Club and the cost of a license for six people would be £95.00.

It was resolved that the Parish council would approve in principle the allocation of a sum in the region of £100.00 for the purpose of acquiring Hadleigh Fishing Club Junior Memberships. Proposed by Chairman Nick Brandt, seconded by Vice-Chair Michael Hackford, all in favour.

13) Chairman & Clerk's Reports & Correspondence

The Clerk read to the Council the letter of thanks from Heather Clayton regarding the bench donated in memory of her mother.

The Clerk reported the findings of the Playground report and Vice-Chair Michael Hackford agreed to examine the report more thoroughly and organise any work required

The Clerk reported to the Council the reply from John Boutcher to the "thank you" that was sent regarding the clearance of the ditches in Heath Road. John Boutcher stated that the pressure jetting should take place in the next few weeks and after that was willing to meet with Councillors regarding Heath Road.

The Clerk informed the Council that she had been copied on correspondence from Mr. Casburn and Kevin Verlander regarding Bridleway Number 5 and Public Footpath Number 40.

The Chairman reported that he had drafted a letter to Kevin Verlander regarding the schedule of the clearance of the footpaths as well as the condition of Dollops Wood.

The Chairman asked the Council if anyone knew who owned the railings around the pond. The condition of the railings gave cause for concern. It was agreed by the Council for the Chairman to investigate the cost of their replacement or repair as well as to identify the owners.

16) Future Agenda Items and Dates of next meetings

Hog Roast 2009

Bus Shelter

Carse Pond

Homey Bridge Road

Financial Standing Orders

Article for Magazine detailing the role of a Parish Council

18th June 2009

16th July 2009

17th September 2009

15th October 2009

19th November 2009

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm